



By the King.

A Proclamation concerning Royall Mynes.



He Kings most Excellent Maiestie, hauing both by the iudgement and opinion of sundry persons of skill, and by diuers trials and good experiments, receiued aduertisement of great probabilities, and assured hopes of finding within his Realmes of England and Ireland, and the Dominion of Wales, many rich Mynes of Silver and other Mettals, hauing in them Silver and Gold, which by his Maiesties lawes and prerogatiue Royall, do of right belong to his Imperiall Crowne; and hauing receiued diuers Ouertures and Propositions, for the discovering and working the same, hath beene pleased (as in a matter of speciall importance for the enriching of his Kingdomes) not onely to commend the same to the serious consideration of his priuie Counsell, but maturely to consult and aduise thereon himselfe, and in the end, after many and deliberate debatements thereof, hath with the aduise of his priuie Counsell resolved vpon these ensuing Articles.

First, that Leases for one and twentie yeeres shall be made vnder the great Seale of England for any the said Mynes, vnto such as will vndertake the same, either in his Maiesties owne lands and soyle, or in the lands and soyle of any others within either of the said Realmes or Dominion, except the Countie of Cardigan.

Secondly, That for encouragement of the said Lessees, they shall hold the same two yeeres from the date of the said Leases free from any rent or payment to his Maiestie.

Thirdly, in case the said Lessees shall discover any such Mine within the limits and bounds contained in their Leases, and after opening thereof, the Veine shall be found to runne into any other grounds adiacent, and being without the limits and bounds contained in the said Leases, the Lessees shall be enabled to follow and worke after the same Veine into all other places (excepting Mynes opened by others in the same ground, into which the Veine runneth, before the discovery made by such Lessees) alwayes allowing vnto such owners and possessors of the ground for the time being, into which the

Uaine runneth, and is followed, double the value of the damage they shall suffer any way, the same to be valued by the two next Justices of Peace, and in case that by colour hereof any wrong be maliciously done, then further recompense to be given to the partie grieved upon his complaint to the Kings Maiestie, or the Lords of the priue Counsell, as the qualitie of the cause shal merit. And the said Leases shall containe such other ample Priuiledges, Clauses and Couenants as shalbe fit, and may best encourage the the said workes.

Fourthly, to the intent the said Mines shal not lie vnprofitable, as heretofore, his Maiesties pleasure is, That the said Undertakers shal so prepare and begin their worke with such conuenient expedition, as that from the end of two yeeres after the date of their Leases, they shal allow and pay his Maiestie the proportion of Silver and other Mettall hereafter mentioned, and shal effectually proceede therein with such competent stocke and number of workemen, as the situation, richnesse, and condition of the Mines shal require, and shal yeeld to his Maiestie from the end of the said two yeeres, the tenth part of all the Gold, Silver, Copper, and Lead extracted and refined, which shal proceede or come of the said Mines. And for the more ease and expedition of such as shal sue for any such Leases, the Lord Treasurer and Chancelloz of the Exchequer within the Realme of England, or either of them in the vacancy of the other, shal and may, without other suit to his Maiestie, appoint the limits and bounds to be contained in each mans Lease, and give order accordingly to his Maiesties Attourney generall. And his Maiestie in fauour to the owners of the lands, within which the said Mines are, is pleased, that they, or such as they shal nominate, be preferred to the said Leases before all others, so as they attend the said Lord Treasurer or Chancelloz, and take the same within three Moneths after the publishing of this his Royall Proclamation in the Countie where the said lands lie. And in case they doe not attend and take the same within that space, then such persons shal be admitted to take Leases thereof, as shal first make suit for the same.

Given at the Court at Wansteede, the tenth day of Iuly, in the two and twentieth yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland.

God saue the King.

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